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Application No.: 09/978,344  
Filed October 16, 2001  
Amdt. dated September 4, 2003

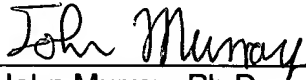
**REMARKS**

Applicants amended the specification to recite the claim to priority. No new matter has been added.

Claims 21-42 are pending in the application.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for examination. Should the Examiner feel a discussion would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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